



OPASTCO

21 Dupont Circle NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

July 31, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Ex Parte Notice

**RE: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On Wednesday, July 31, 2003, Glenn Brown of McLean & Brown, Gene Johnson of Fairpoint Communications, Wendy Thompson-Fast of the Consolidated Telephone Companies, Ken Pfister of Great Plains Communications, and Stuart Polikoff of the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO) met with Billy Jack Gregg of the Consumer Advocate Division of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia. We discussed OPASTCO's views on the Joint Board's proceeding concerning the methodology for calculating high-cost support in competitive study areas, the rules regarding support for second lines, and the process for designating eligible telecommunications carriers. We provided Mr. Gregg with a written ex parte presentation, which is attached.

In accordance with FCC rules, this letter is being filed electronically in the above-captioned docket.

Sincerely,

Stuart Polikoff
Director of Government Relations
OPASTCO